



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Elizabeth Cromwell
Telephone: 301/600-1629
Email: ecromwell@frederickcountymd.gov

**FREDERICK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES MODIFIES HOURS OF OPERATION
AND OTHER SERVICES DUE TO STAFF REDUCTIONS**

Changes are intended to protect core services despite reduced budget and staffing

FREDERICK, MD, June 2, 2010 – During its June meeting, the Board of Trustees of Frederick County Public Libraries voted to accept staff recommendations to reduce the hours of operation. This reduction is one of several changes taking place this summer resulting from Frederick County's hiring freeze, which has had a significant impact on the library system over the past two years.

The change in hours is due to the elimination of nearly library 20 public service positions since the hiring freeze took effect. The library has significantly increased the number of volunteer hours to assist remaining staff, but still is unable to properly staff all of the locations under the current hours of operation.

New hours of operation, effective on July 1:

C. Burr Artz, Urbana and Thurmont (regional libraries):

Monday-Thursday, 10-8; Friday-Saturday, 10-5; Sunday, 1-5

Brunswick, Emmitsburg, Middletown, Walkersville (community branches):

Monday & Wednesday, 10-6; Tuesday & Thursday, 10-8; Friday & Sunday, closed;
Saturday, 10-5

Edward F. Fry Memorial Library at Point of Rocks

Monday & Wednesday, 3-8; Tuesday & Saturday, 10-3; Thursday, Friday & Sunday,
closed

Maryland Room: The Maryland Room will operate with reduced hours of service. New hours:
Monday-Thursday, 10-7; Friday, 10-5; Saturday, 12-5; Sunday, closed

Technology Center: In response to staff analysis and recommendation, the Board of Trustees voted to approve the closure of the C. Burr Artz Technology Center in its current form on July 31, 2010. Staff is reviewing community partnership possibilities to determine how the resources can provide the most effective benefit to the community in the future.

Meeting Rooms: FCPL can no longer offer audio/visual equipment but will continue to offer a pull-down projection screen if requested.

Over the next few months, FCPL will honor previously confirmed meeting room reservations for hours the library is now scheduled to be closed.

For further information about the library's new hours of operation and other service changes, please visit the library's website at www.fcpl.org.

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